

APPROVED: Meeting No. 21-95

ATTEST: *Paula Jewell*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
Meeting No. 07-95

January 30, 1995

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in Worksession with Community Ministries of Rockville (CMR) in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, on January 30, 1995, at 9:10 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Pro Tem Dorsey

Councilmember Rose G. Krasnow

Councilmember James T. Marrinan

Councilmember Nina A. Weisbroth

ABSENT

James F. Coyle (on travel)

In attendance: Acting City Manager Rick Kuckkahn, City Clerk Paula Jewell and Community Services Director Josephine Roberts.

Re: Worksession with Community
Ministries of Rockville

The Mayor and Council met in Worksession with Community Ministries of Rockville Director Mansfield Kaseman, Agnes Saenz (Director of Latino Outreach), Liz Trujillo (Adult Coordinator of Adult Programs), and Rev. Gregory Shannon, Crusader Lutheran Church.

1. Latino Outreach Program (LOP) - This program has a 67% completion

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residents. The program offers seven classes including basic English and communication skills. Students that come to LOP are in a lower level than the basic class of the County's ESOL program. Ms. Trujillo reported that as a teacher of basic English classes for one year, she found that the students were eager to learn, and she found this a very rewarding experience.

Reverend Shannon noted that he served as President of a borough Council for 10 years. The Crusader Church was organized in the 1950s for the Twinbrook neighborhood. The Church still has many of its original members and second generation members. During a pastoral vacancy in the early 1990s, a survey of the community was taken and administering to the needs of the hispanic community was identified as a great need to which the congregation responded in a positive way. The congregation pays 50% of the costs for any member wanting to learn Spanish. This has resulted in a bridge between the two cultures and the Church is planning to broaden the outlook to the Afro-American community.

Councilmember Krasnow questioned how the Program dealt with the demand for such a program; she asked if there was a limit placed on what can be provided. Ms. Saenz responded that they would like to see the class capacity average of 20 continue; the classes were 1.5 hours long and held twice a week for 14 weeks. Ms. Trujillo noted that the Program is also considering a requirement that students whose English skills have reached a certain level have to provide community service hours.

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Councilmember Dorsey noted that the program appeared to attract more females than males. Ms. Saenz responded that most hispanic males were already employed. Females who are employed in primarily domestic positions took classes in order to increase their education and work skills.

Councilmember Marrinan noted that the Mayor and Council were faced with the real problem of how to help organizations meet the increasing demands with limited and decreasing resources.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council in worksession with Community Ministries of Rockville, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m., to reconvene in Worksession on February 6, 1995, at 7:30 p.m.